

# N.H. GREEN YARDS PROGRAM: AN OVERVIEW

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## What is the N.H. Green Yards Program?

The ***N.H. Green Yards Program*** is designed to help motor vehicle recyclers improve environmental practices at their salvage yards. The N.H. Department of Environmental Services (DES) is implementing the program in two phases:

- ✓ Phase I: Education and Compliance Assistance
- ✓ Phase II: Environmental Self-Audit and Compliance Certification

## Who is participating?

The ***N.H. Green Yards Program*** applies to motor vehicle recycling yards where:

- ✓ 12 or more end-of-life vehicles are dismantled and/or crushed yearly; *and/or*
- ✓ 25 or more end-of-life vehicles, or the equivalent in parts, are kept longer than 60 days.

About 200 New Hampshire motor vehicle recycling yards are currently participating in the program. The yards provide a variety of auto salvage services ranging from simple “graveyards” to full-service retail parts and scrap metal dealers. Many are “Mom & Pop” operations involving fewer than two employees, less than five acres of land, and an annual throughput of fewer than 500 end-of-life vehicles.

## What is an “end-of-life vehicle”?

The term “end-of-life vehicle” or “ELV” generally refers to any discarded, abandoned, wrecked, ruined, junk, or worn-out car, truck, or other motorized highway vehicle that cannot or will not be repaired and put back into service.

## What happens during Phase I?

The Education and Compliance Assistance Phase consists of:

- ✓ Periodic mailings of user-friendly best management practice guidance sheets covering over 25 topics, ranging from used oil to storm water management requirements.

- ✓ Statewide workshops, held in partnership with the N.H. Auto & Truck Recyclers Association, offering best management practice techniques, new equipment information, and clear explanations of regulatory requirements.
- ✓ Compliance assistance by the DES Pollution Prevention Program and other assistance programs, providing facility specific compliance assistance and pollution prevention strategies that can save money. Pollution prevention assistance, available by request, is completely free, completely confidential, and does not include any enforcement. Contact the Pollution Prevention Program at (800) 273-9469 or (603) 271-6460.

### What happens during Phase II?

After the Education and Compliance Assistance Phase is completed, motor vehicle recyclers will be expected to complete a self-certification process that consists of:

- ✓ An environmental self-audit (with assistance, if requested), using a workbook and checklist provided by DES.
- ✓ Submission of a completed statement, certifying compliance with checklist requirements.

Recyclers who are unable to certify compliance will be expected to submit a plan and schedule for achieving compliance.

### Need more information?

DES is committed to helping motor vehicle recyclers learn how to operate in an environmentally friendly manner and avoid costly mistakes.

For more information about the ***N.H. Green Yards Program***, or to receive the educational materials, contact:

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